



Visitor Guide

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests Thunder Basin National Grassland

SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE/HEAD- QUARTERS

2468 Jackson Street
Laramie, WY 82070-6535
(307) 745-2300
1-800-877-9965 (TTY)
<http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>

BRUSH CREEK/HAYDEN RANGER DISTRICT

2171 Hwy 130, PO Box 249
Saratoga, WY 82331
(307) 326-5258

DOUGLAS RANGER DISTRICT

2250 E. Richards Street
Douglas, WY 82633
(307) 358-4690

HAHNS PEAK/BEARS EARS RANG/R DISTRICT

925 Weiss Drive
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487-9315
(970) 870-2299

LARAMIE RANGER DISTRICT

2468 Jackson Street
Laramie, WY 82070-6535
(307) 745-2300

PARKS RANGER DISTRICT

100 Main Street, PO Box 158
Walden, CO 80480
(970) 723-2700

YAMPA RANGER DISTRICT

300 Roselawn Avenue, PO Box 7
Yampa, CO 80483
(970) 638-4516

Welcome to Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland! Visitor opportunities abound on almost 2.9 million acres of National Forest System lands.

The Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests extend from north central Colorado to central Wyoming. The national forests encompass portions of many mountain ranges, including Gore Range, Flat Tops, Parks Range, Elkhead, Medicine Bow Mountains, Sierra Madre, and Laramie Range.

The national forests provide year-round recreation opportunities for thousands of people. They also provide wildlife habitat, timber, and forage for livestock and are a vital source of water for irrigation, domestic use, and industry.

The topography varies greatly within the national forests. Elevation ranges from 5,500 to 12,940 feet. The climate ranges from semi-arid at low elevations to colder and less arid in the high country. Frost may occur at any time, and visitors to the higher elevations should be prepared for harsh weather, including snow and high winds, even during the summer months.

Different ranger districts administer different areas of the national forests. References to these ranger districts appear on a map and in other sections of this guide. For specific information about the area you plan to visit, please contact the ranger district in that area.

The Thunder Basin National Grassland is located in northeastern Wyoming in the Powder River Basin between the Big Horn Mountains and the Black Hills. Elevation on the national grassland ranges from 3,600 to 5,200 feet, and the climate is semi-arid.

The national grassland provides unique opportunities for recreation, including hiking, sightseeing, hunting, and fishing. There are no developed campgrounds; however, dispersed camping is allowed.

The national grassland abounds with wildlife year-round, provides forage for livestock, and is underlain with vast mineral resources. Land patterns are very complex because federal, state, and private lands are intermingled. The Douglas Ranger District administers the Thunder Basin National Grassland.





Recreation Opportunities

OHVS

Motorized vehicle use is limited to designated routes only. Regulations for off-highway motor vehicle use differ greatly between Wyoming and Colorado. Please call local ranger district offices to inquire about specific regulations for motorized vehicle registration, equipment, and driver license information or consult the state web sites: <http://wyotrails.state.wy.us> and <http://parks.state.co.us>. Free motor vehicle use maps (MVUMs) are available at ranger district offices and online. Please remember to “Tread Lightly!”

BOATING AND RAFTING

With few exceptions, boating is limited to non-motorized watercraft on lakes (please refer to the boating notes within the campground listings).

The North Platte River is a popular waterway for rafting and kayaking in late spring and early summer and some parts are suitable for canoeing. For information on canoeing, rafting, and kayaking on the North Platte River, please contact the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District at (307) 326-5258.

All motor boats must be registered. Call (307) 777-4600 (Wyoming) or (303) 791-1920 (Colorado) for information on boating regulations and registration.

All watercraft using Wyoming waters are required to display an Aquatic Invasive Species decal. Decals may be obtained from the Wyoming Game and Fish website (<http://gf.state.wy.us>) or from any licensed agent.

DISPERSED CAMPING

Camping outside of a developed campground (dispersed camping) is allowed in many areas on the national forests and national grassland. Regulations allow dispersed camping for a maximum of 21 days in Wyoming and 14 days in Colorado. There are areas where dispersed camping is prohibited. For more information, contact the ranger district in the area you plan to visit.

GROUP CAMPGROUNDS

Use of the following group campgrounds requires reservations and payment of a fee: Ryan Park on the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District, Seedhouse Campground on the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District, Pole Creek on the Laramie Ranger District, and Teal Lake on the Parks Ranger District. Reservations can be made at www.recreation.gov or by calling the National Recreation Reservation Service at (877) 444-6777, TDD: (877) 833-8777.

FISHING AND HUNTING

Secluded mountain lakes and streams await anglers. Many different species of trout are present and provide anglers with numerous fishing opportunities.

There are a variety of game ranges and habitats. Big game includes elk, mule deer, white-tailed deer, pronghorn antelope, bighorn sheep, moose, and black bear. Hunters also pursue several small game species and game birds.

Please call the Wyoming Game and Fish Department at (307) 777-4600 or the Colorado Division of Wildlife at (303) 297-1192 to inquire about fishing and hunting regulations and for information or visit <http://gf.state.wy.us> or <http://wildlife.state.co.us/>.

HIKING

The national forests and national grassland are ideal for hikes ranging from a couple of hours to three days and longer. Trails vary in length, degree of difficulty,

and amount of use. Most people hike in summer and early fall. Some trailheads require a day use fee; signs are posted at these areas. Trail maps are available at ranger district offices.

HORSEBACK RIDING AND HORSE CAMPING

The national forests and national grassland offer many trails suitable for horseback riding. Horses are allowed on hiking trails unless a trail is designated for foot travel only. In some areas, dude ranches and outfitters may offer trail rides and pack trips. Horses are not allowed in or near developed campgrounds but are permitted in some dispersed campsites. Only certified weed-free hay or processed feed may be brought onto National Forest System lands. In some designated wilderness areas, only processed feed may be used. Tree-saver straps for picket lines and portable corrals are recommended. For more information on horseback riding and camping opportunities, please contact the ranger district in the area you plan to visit.

MOUNTAIN BIKING

Many backcountry roads and trails offer excellent opportunities for mountain biking. Trail maps are available at ranger district offices. Bicycles and unicycles are not allowed in designated wilderness areas.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Beautiful scenery, wildlife, colorful foliage, rushing streams and rivers, and rugged mountaintops offer the photographer countless subjects. Commercial still photography and videography on National Forest System lands requires a special use permit. Please contact a ranger district office if you are considering these uses.

PICNICKING

There are many developed day use picnic areas available. Overnight camping is not allowed in picnic areas unless posted. Many of the picnic areas are free, but some of them require fees and/or reservations. Reservations for Bottle Creek Campground and Group Picnic Area on the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District or Hidden Valley Group Picnic Area on the Laramie Ranger District can be made at www.recreation.gov or by calling the National Recreation Reservation Service at (877) 444-6777, TDD: (877) 833-8777.

RECREATIONAL MINING

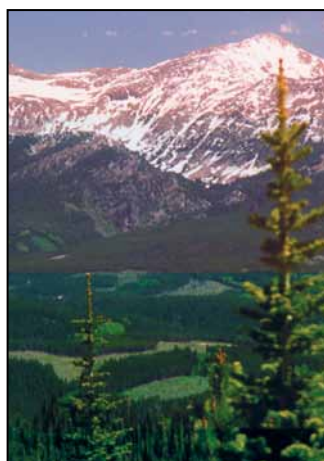
While recreational metal detecting is legal in most areas, it is not recommended for the following reasons: 1) archaeological clearance must be obtained before any digging or ground disturbance takes place, and 2) anything recovered within the jurisdictional boundaries of the national forests and national grassland is considered property of the United States.

Panning for gold is allowed in most areas, but designated wilderness areas are not open to mineral activities of any kind, including panning.

Recreational dredging permits must be obtained through the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality with concurrence from the Forest Service. A letter of intent must be filed with a ranger district office.

In Colorado, please contact a ranger district office before undertaking any mineral activity.

Detailed information is available online, as well.



Highlights and Scenic Attractions

BRUSH CREEK/HAYDEN RANGER DISTRICT

SNOWY RANGE SCENIC BYWAY – The Mirror Lake Picnic Area at Medicine Bow Peak includes a paved parking lot, picnic sites, a double vault toilet, a fishing platform, and a paved shoreline path. All are accessible, including several parking spots. In addition, there is a historic Civilian Conservation Corps rock building on site.

Lake Marie at Medicine Bow Peak has a paved parking lot, a double vault toilet, and a paved walking path that follows the southeast shore of Lake Marie.

The Brush Creek Visitor Center is near the national forest boundary on State Highway 130. It is open from Memorial Day through September, weather permitting, and is a great place to get area information and to stretch your legs.

KENNADAY PEAK – The Kennaday Peak Fire Lookout was one of the last manned fire lookouts in the area. The lookout is now closed, but the mountaintop can be accessed via Forest Road 215. The stunning view from Kennaday Peak is a 360-degree panorama of surrounding mountains and the Platte River Valley.

BATTLE HIGHWAY – The Battle Highway, Wyoming State Highway 70, crosses the Continental Divide and Sierra Madre Mountains between Encampment and Baggs. The 28-mile stretch of the highway that lies within national forest boundaries is only open from June through October, weather permitting.

Historic sites along the highway include the Battle town site and Edison Monument. The mining town of Battle flourished in the late 1890s and early 1900s. The Edison Monument is a stone marker noting Thomas Edison’s fishing visit to Battle Lake.

The Continental Divide parking area affords visitors a wide vista of the Sierra Madre Range, Little Snake River Valley, and Platte River Valley. In autumn, the drive over the Continental Divide to the western national forest boundary can be ablaze with color. Aspen Alley on Forest Road 801 is a popular destination for viewing aspens trees in full color. The Battle Creek overlook offers a scenic panorama of the Continental Divide, Battle Mountain, and northwest Colorado peaks.

HOG PARK – Hog Park lies south of Encampment, near the Colorado-Wyoming state line. During the late 1890s and early 1900s, this large tie-hack camp produced railroad ties for the Union Pacific Railroad. Remnants of this historic logging activity are evident in the area. The Hog Park Reservoir was built in the 1960s for water storage and is a popular area for camping, fishing, and boating.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT MUSEUM – The Grand Encampment Museum is the official repository of Forest Service Region 2 (the Rocky Mountain Region) memorabilia. It is located in Encampment, Wyoming and includes more than a dozen historical buildings filled with artifacts representing the timber, mining, and agricultural history of the Encampment valley.

DOUGLAS RANGER DISTRICT

LARAMIE PEAK UNIT – Laramie Peak is the highest point in the Laramie Mountains with an elevation of 10,272 feet. Oregon, California, and Mormon trails travelers used the peak as a guidepost. Laramie Peak was the first Rocky Mountains peak that these travelers saw from vantage points as far away as Scottsbluff, Nebraska. The peak was a forewarning of the rugged crossing of the Continental Divide that lay ahead. There is a steep 4.8-mile trail to the top of Laramie Peak that is open to OHVs, horses, bicycles, and hikers. This trail offers a panoramic view of southeastern Wyoming. The Laramie Peak Trailhead is located one-quarter mile from the Friend Park Campground and requires a \$5.00

per vehicle day use fee or possession of an annual pass (refer to the Federal Passes section for more information). Forest Road 671 offers access to the trailhead.

LABONTE CANYON – LaBonte Canyon is an area of steep granite rock formations. The scenic, steep canyon walls, groves of aspen, and stands of conifer can be viewed from Forest Road 658. Populations of deer, elk, and big-horn sheep inhabit the area. LaBonte Canyon has several trails open to OHVs, horses, bicycles, and hikers. The Curtis Gulch Campground is at the end of the canyon. There are many beautiful, undeveloped campsites available along LaBonte Creek.

BLACK MOUNTAIN – Black Mountain is located off Forest Road 633 in Harris Park. The Black Mountain Lookout Tower on top of the peak can be accessed via a rugged, 3.5-mile long road. A high clearance, four-wheel drive vehicle is recommended. The lookout tower was built by the Forest Service in 1958 and is now on the National Historic Lookout Register. Black Mountain is one of the few fire lookouts still in operation in the United States and is open from June until October. Visitors are welcome.

ASHENFELDER BASIN – Considered a wilderness area without the official designation by many, this area encompasses the western, northern, and eastern sweep around Laramie Peak. New trails have made accessing this wild country safer and easier, but the area still offers solitude and challenge. The best access trails to the basin are the Roaring Fork Trail west of Black Mountain and Harris Park Trail east of Black Mountain.

HAHNS PEAK/BEARS EARS RANGER DISTRICT

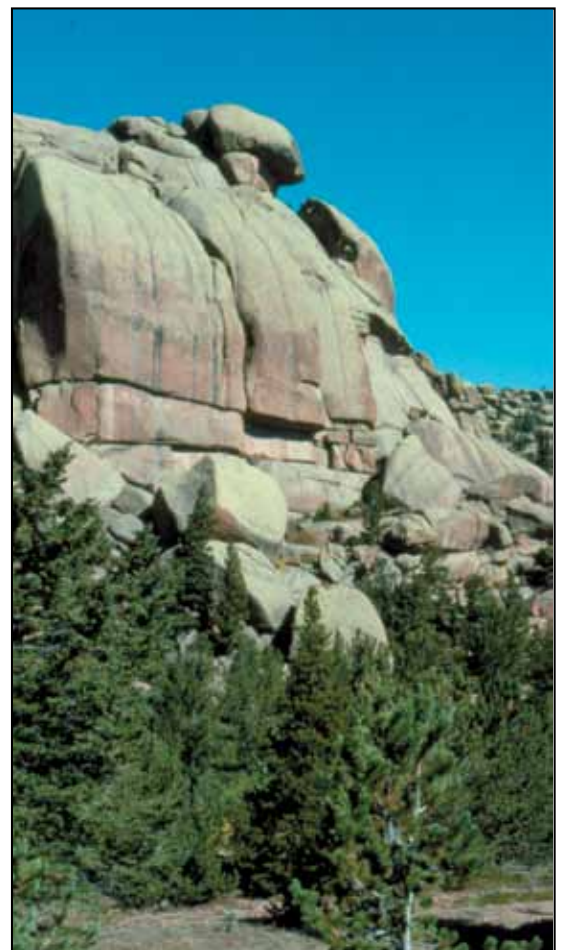
Located in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District provides information about camping, fishing, hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, horseback riding, hunting, motorized vehicle use, and a variety of winter recreation activities in partnerships with the Colorado Division of Wildlife and Yampatika. This ranger district office, along with the partners, provides one stop to purchase hunting or fishing licenses, maps and field guides, or participate in an educational program.

Stop in to inquire about some of Colorado’s finest lake and stream fishing opportunities or where to view mountain wildflowers blooming from spring through summer. In the fall, trees and shrubs exhibit spectacular colors. Northwest Colorado offers some of the best trophy hunting areas in the state and public access to hunting is readily available. Rules for the Colorado hunting season may change each year, and current information is available in this office.

FISH CREEK FALLS – This spectacular 283-foot waterfall is just 15 minutes from downtown Steamboat Springs. Interpretive signs, a picnic area, and restrooms are available. A day use fee of \$5.00 or possession of an annual pass is required.

BIG AND LITTLE RED PARKS – Big and Little Red Parks are 30 miles north of Steamboat Springs just south of the Wyoming border. Opportunities for hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and OHV use are available on an extensive trail and road network. Several historic trails, such as the Ellis Trail (1155) and the Wyoming Trail (1101), are part of the area’s mining and logging history.

BEARS EARS – The Bears Ears country is northeast of Craig, Colorado. This area offers outstanding opportunities for hunting big game, such as deer and elk. A scenic loop can be made by traveling Forest Road 110, County Road 82, and County Road 80 through California Park.



LARAMIE RANGER DISTRICT

MEDICINE BOW RAIL TRAIL – This 21 mile non-motorized use trail was converted from a portion of the abandoned Laramie, Hahns Peak, and Pacific Railroad. The trail is hard-packed gravel with grades and curves suitable for visitors of various abilities. The trailhead parking lot serves as an access point for both the trail and Lake Owen. A covered fishing facility is available at Lake Owen.

SNOWY RANGE SCENIC BYWAY – The Snowy Range Scenic Byway, Wyoming State Highway 130, crosses the Medicine Bow Mountains and includes 27 miles within national forest boundaries. Accessible from the east or west via U.S. Interstate 80, the Laramie and Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger Districts share the scenic byway. The route rises from 8,000 feet at the valley floor to an altitude of 10,847 feet at Snowy Range Pass. At 12,013 feet, nearby Medicine Bow Peak towers over the scenic byway.

On this drive, travelers are close enough to Medicine Bow Peak to explore the year-round snowfields. Even in summer, these snowfields glisten along the peak’s face, illustrating how this part of the mountain range got its name.

Vegetation along the scenic byway ranges from sagebrush at the lower elevations to lodgepole pine at mid elevations. At higher elevations, the lodgepole pine gives way to spruce-fir forests and alpine tundra. In summer, wildflowers carpet the alpine meadows. Visitors have opportunities for bird watching and viewing moose, elk, deer, pronghorn antelope, and smaller mammals, such as marmots, beaver, pikas, and pine marten. There are many small lakes nestled against high escarpments that are home to rainbow, cutthroat, and brook trout.

The scenic byway is open from Memorial Day through October, weather permitting. The Centennial Visitor Information Center is located on the eastern national forest boundary and is open during the summer. For fall and winter hours, call the Laramie Ranger District. Maps, brochures, passes, permits, and books are also available at this visitor center. The Centennial Visitor Information Center will be closed during the summer of 2011 for new construction.

The scenic byway is a popular recreation attraction with many picnic, camping, observation, and interpretive facilities. Several hiking trails are accessible from the scenic byway, including the Medicine Bow Peak Trail. The upper portion of this trail traverses large boulder fields that make it a difficult hike for small children.

Barber Lake Picnic Area is approximately 35 miles west of Laramie. Barber Lake is a small pond adjacent to the highway that offers accessible fishing opportunities and typically is stocked with rainbow trout.

VEDAUWOO RECREATION AREA – The jumbled rocks of the Vedauwoo Recreation Area are located on the Pole Mountain Unit between Laramie and Cheyenne directly off U.S. Interstate 80. This is a popular area for hiking, biking, and camping. Visitors may reserve the gazebo for picnicking by calling (307) 745-2300. Firewood may be gathered in this area, but may not be cut from dead standing trees. Firewood gathered in this area must be used on site and may not be removed from the area. Off-road travel by motorized vehicle is prohibited in the Vedauwoo Recreation Area.

PARKS RANGER DISTRICT

BIG CREEK LAKES – This popular recreation area is 35 miles northwest of Walden. Lower Big Creek Lake has a 54-unit campground on the shoreline. Nineteen sites within the Big Creek Campground may be reserved, and reservations can be made at www.recreation.gov or by calling the National Recreation Reservation Service at (877) 444-6777, TDD: (877) 833-8777.

The Seven Lakes Trailhead at the north end of the Big Creek Campground is the beginning of the one-mile Red Elephant Nature Trail. This nature trail features 25 points of interest and ends at Upper Big Creek Lake. The Seven

Lakes Trail continues one mile past the lake to Big Creek Falls and the boundary of the Mount Zirkel Wilderness Area. Seven Lakes is seven miles from the campground.

TELLER CITY – The Teller City Interpretive Site is southeast of Walden. Teller City is an abandoned silver mining town established in 1879. A three-quarter mile hardened surface loop trail is accessible to people with disabilities and visitors can view several building foundations and scattered artifacts. Interpretive signs explain the history of the area. This area will be closed during the summer of 2011 for bark beetle work.

MOOSE – Visitors to the Parks Ranger District often see moose. The best areas to spot them are in the Illinois River drainage and the Michigan River drainage. Moose are solitary animals. Please respect them and keep your distance. They will not hesitate to defend themselves or their young if they feel threatened.

THUNDER BASIN NATIONAL GRASSLAND

FIDDLEBACK AREA – This large area of prairie on the Thunder Basin National Grassland is located between Douglas and Gillette, Wyoming. The area includes the Cheyenne River Valley and is surrounded by the Red Hills and Rochelle Hills to the west and north. It is a haven for eagles, raptors, deer, elk, and pronghorn antelope.

INYAN KARA AREA – Commonly known as the Upton and Osage area, it is located in the far northeast part of Wyoming between Gillette and Newcastle. This grassland area forms the foothills of the Black Hills to the east. It offers a variety of terrain, including low sage and grass plains and thick pine-covered hills. Year-round fishing is the recreational highlight of the area. Several reservoirs are notable for smallmouth bass and trout populations. Abundant trails include both single and double track segments that provide opportunities for hikers and motorized vehicle users.

SPRING CREEK UNIT – The Spring Creek Unit is considered a satellite of the national grassland. This parcel of land is located north of Gillette and extends almost to the Montana border. Popular activities in this area include OHV use, wildlife viewing, hiking, and hunting. In addition to recreation opportunities offered on this remote portion of the national grassland, there are more activities available on nearby Bureau of Land Management administered lands. These lands make the Spring Creek Unit an attractive get-away.

YAMPA RANGER DISTRICT

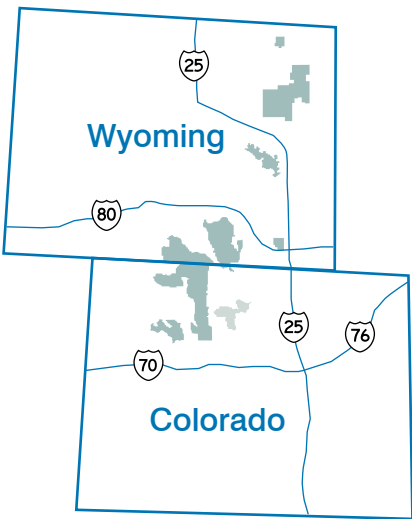
The Yampa Ranger District is home to two wilderness areas that provide abundant opportunities for camping, hiking, hunting, and fishing. More than 200 miles of trails for hikers, horses and pack animals, skiers, and snowshoers weave through the heart of the **Flat Tops Wilderness Area**. The **Sarvis Creek Wilderness Area** offers crystal clear streams, rich animal habitat, and, for history buffs, the remains of historic log flumes. Off of scenic Gore Pass, backcountry roads and trails offer opportunities for cyclists of all abilities. Four OHV trails are maintained within the ranger district to accommodate motorized vehicle use.

FLAT TOPS TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY – The Flat Tops Trail Scenic Byway crosses the northern Flat Top Mountains between Yampa and Meeker. Approximately 40 miles of this 82-mile byway is gravel road with some hairpin turns and high passes. It is passenger-car friendly, but in the spring and fall, travelers should check conditions. Bring your binoculars for this 2.5 hour trip. There are fantastic panoramic views and opportunities to see wildlife, such as marmots, eagles, elk, mule deer, and grouse. Wildflowers fill the alpine meadows in June and July. The scenic byway is open from June through October, weather permitting. Gas and other services are available only in Yampa and Meeker.



Area Map

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests Thunder Basin National Grassland



- a

Savage Run Wilderness

b

Platte River Wilderness

c

Encampment River Wilderness

d

Huston Park Wilderness

e

Mt. Zirkel Wilderness

f

Sarvis Creek Wilderness

g

Flat Tops Wilderness

h

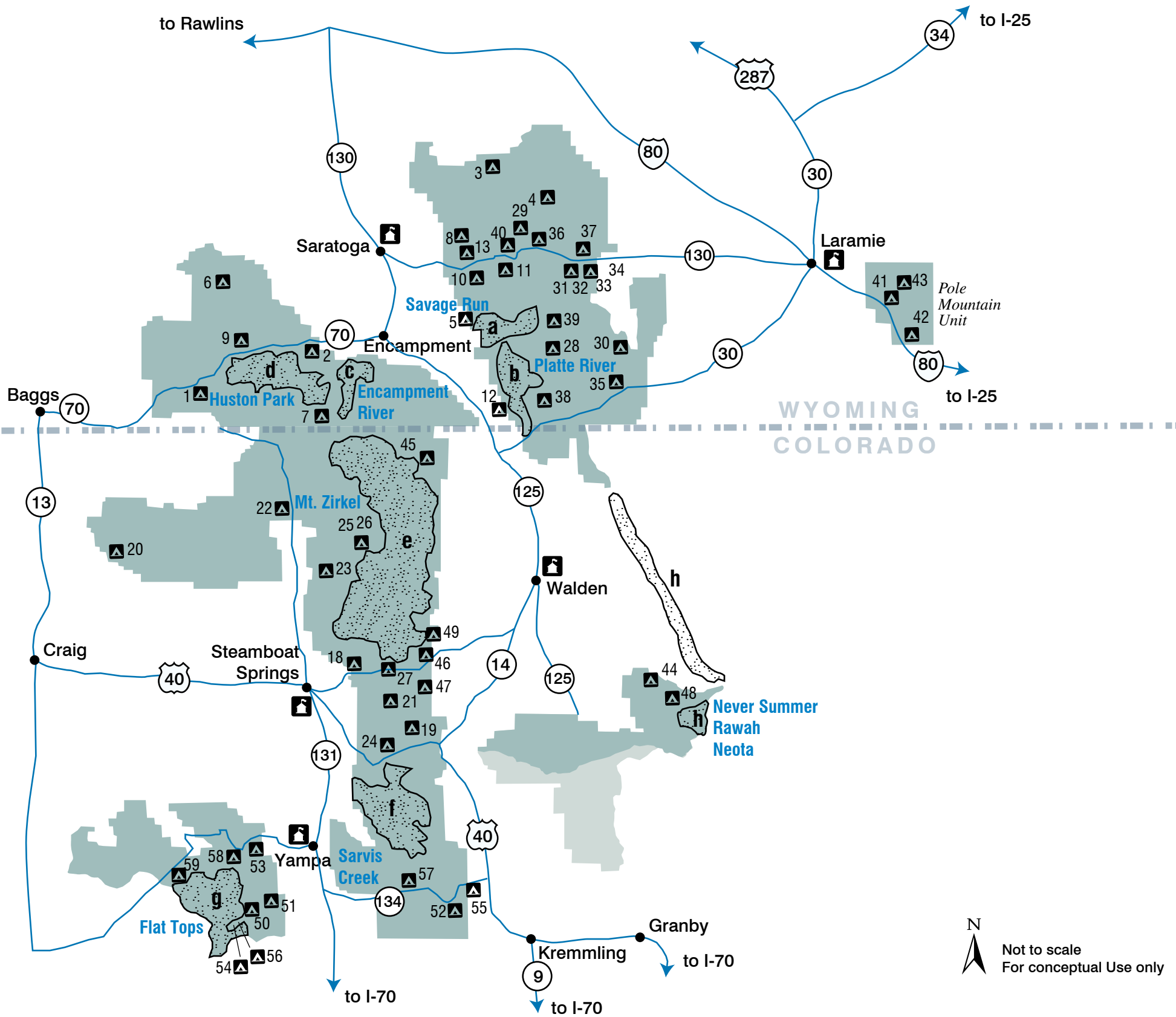
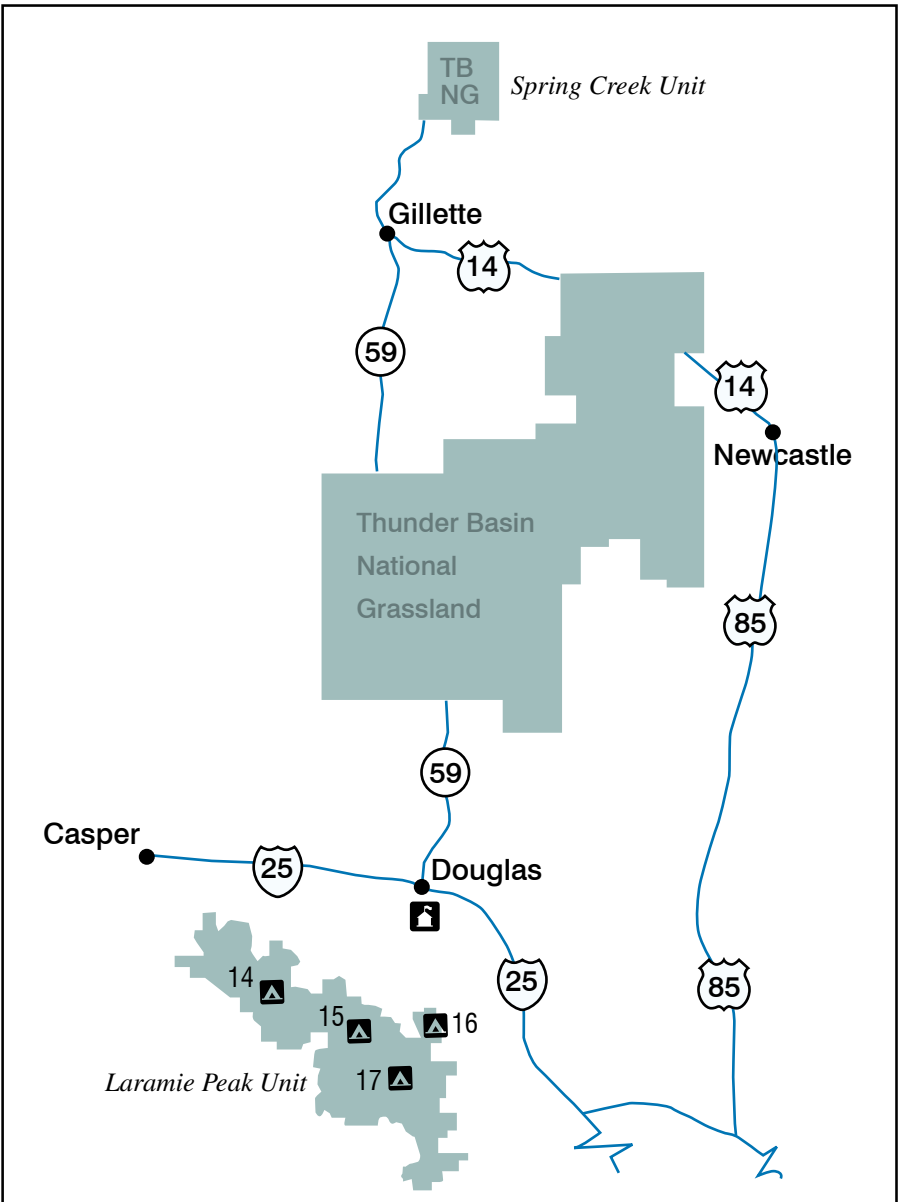
Never Summer, Rawah, Neota
- Medicine Bow-Routt NF and Thunder Basin NG boundary

Arapaho-Roosevelt NF boundary


Wilderness boundary

Ranger District

Campground



Campgrounds

RANGER DISTRICT	 ON MAP	CAMPGROUND	SEASON (VARIABLE)	ELEVATION (FEET)	NUMBER OF SITES	MAX VEHICLE/ TRAILER SIZE (FEET)	NOTES	FEE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)
BRUSH CREEK/ HAYDEN	1	Battle Creek	6/10-10/31	7,800	4	16	F	0
	2	Bottle Creek	5/27-10/31	8,800	12	45	F	\$10.00
	3	Bow River	6/10-9/8	8,600	13	32	F	\$10.00
	4	Deep Creek	6/10-9/8	10,200	12	22	F	\$10.00
	5	French Creek	6/10-9/8	8,000	11	32	F	\$10.00
	6	Jack Creek	6/10-10/31	8,500	16	22	F	\$10.00
	7	Hog Park	6/15-9/8	8,400	50	30	R, F, B, (HP,E,IC)	\$10.00
	8	Lincoln Park	5/27-10/31	7,800	12	32	F	\$10.00
	9	Lost Creek	5/27-10/31	8,800	10	22	F	\$10.00
	10	Ryan Park	5/27-10/31	8,000	48	32	R, F	\$10.00
	11	Silver Lake*	Closed Indefinitely	10,400	17	32	F, B (HP)	\$10.00
	12	Sixmile Gap	5/1-10/31	8,000	9	32	F	\$10.00
	13	S. Brush Creek	5/27-10/31	7,900	20	32	F	\$10.00
DOUGLAS	14	Campbell Creek	6/01-10/31	8,200	8	22	A, No Water	\$ 10.00
	15	Curtis Gulch	6/15-10/31	6,600	6	22	A, F	\$10.00
	16	Esterbrook	5/15-10/31	6,500	12	22	A, No Water	\$10.00
	17	Friend Park	6/01-10/31	7,400	11	22	A, F, No Water	\$10.00
HAHNS PEAK/ BEARS EARS	18	Dry Lake	6/10-11/15	8,000	8	16	No Water	\$10.00
	19	Dumont Lake	6/25-10/31	9,500	22	40	F, B, R (HP,E)	\$12.00
	20	Freeman Reservoir	6/15-11/15	8,800	17	25	F, B (HP,E)	\$12.00
	21	Granite*	Closed Indefinitely	10,200	8	22	F, B (HP,E) No Water	\$10.00
	22	Hahns Peak Lake*	Closed Indefinitely	8,500	25	40	R, F, B (HP,E), No Water	\$10.00
	23	Hinman Park	6/10-10/15	7,600	13	22	F	\$12.00
	24	Meadows	7/1-10/31	9,300	30	40	No Water	\$10.00
	25	Seedhouse*	6/15-10/31	8,000	24	25	R, F	\$12.00
	26	Seedhouse Group Site*	6/15-9/30	8,000	8	30	R, A, F	\$100.00
	27	Summit Lake*	7/10-9/30	10,300	16	18	F, B (HP) No Water	\$10.00
LARAMIE	28	Bobbie Thomson	6/01-10/15	8,800	18	32	F	\$10.00
	29	Brooklyn Lake	7/15-10/01	10,500	19	22	R,F,B (HP)	\$10.00
	30	Lake Owen	6/01-10/15	9,000	35	22	F,B (HP,E,IC)	\$10.00
	31	Libby Creek - Aspen	6/01-10/15	8,600	8	tents only	F	\$10.00
	32	Libby Creek - Pine	6/01-10/15	8,600	6	16	F	\$10.00
	33	Libby Creek - Spruce	6/01-10/15	8,600	8	16	F	\$10.00
	34	Libby Creek - Willow	6/01-10/15	8,600	16	34	R,F	\$10,00
	35	Miller Lake	6/01-10/15	9,100	7	22	F,B (HP)	\$10.00
	36	Nash Fork	7/01-10/15	10,200	27	22	F	\$10.00
	37	North Fork	6/15-11/01	8,600	60	30	R,F	\$10.00
	38	Pelton Creek	6/15-10/15	8,100	15	16	F	\$10.00
	39	Rob Roy	6/15-10/01	9,500	65	35	F, B (HP,E,IC)	\$10.00
	40	Sugar Loaf	7/15-10/01	10,700	16	22	R, F, B (HP)	\$10.00
	41	Tie City	5/15-11/01	8,600	18	32	F	\$10.00
	42	Vedauwoo	5/05-11/01	8,200	28	32	A, F	\$10.00
	43	Yellow Pine	5/15-10/01	8,400	19	32	F	\$10.00
PARKS	44	Aspen	5/25-9/21	8,900	7	20	F	\$10.00
	45	Big Creek Lakes*	6/15-9/8	9,000	54	32	R, F, B (HP,E,IC)	\$10.00
	46	Hidden Lakes	6/15-9/21	8,900	9	50	F, B (HP,E)	\$10.00
	47	Pines	5/25-9/21	9,200	11	50	F	\$10.00
	48	Teal Lake*	6/5-9/21	9,000	17	25	R, F, B (HP,E)	\$10.00
	49	Teal Lake Group*	6/5-9/21	9,000	18	25	R, F, B (HP,E)	\$20-40
YAMPA	50	Bear Lake	6/1-10/1	9,700	43	30	A, F, B (HP,E)	\$10.00
	51	Bear River Dispersed	6/1-11/01	9,200 to 10,200	30	varies	F, No Water or toilet	\$5.00
	52	Blacktail Creek	6/1-11/01	9,000	8	22	F	\$10.00
	53	Chapman Reservoir	6/15-11/01	9,300	12	22	A, F, B (HP,E), No Water	\$10.00
	54	Cold Springs	6/1-11/01	10,200	5	30	A, F	\$10.00
	55	Gore Pass	Closed Indefinitely	9,500	12	25	-	\$10.00
	56	Horseshoe	6/15-11/01	10,100	7	25	F	\$10.00
	57	Lynx Pass*	Closed Temporarily	9,000	11	18	A, F	\$10.00
	58	Sheriff Reservoir	6/15-11/01	9,700	5	18	F, B (HP,E) No Water	\$ 10.00
	59	Vaughn Lake	6/15-11/01	9,500	6	18	F, B (HP,E) No Water	\$ 10.00

- ALL CAMPGROUNDS have toilets and water unless otherwise noted. THERE ARE NO electric or water hookups or showers.
- OPENING DATES of campgrounds depend on weather conditions and snow removal. Please call district offices for confirmation of dates.
- STAY LIMIT in all campgrounds is 14 consecutive days.
- DOGS are allowed in campgrounds; however, they must be on a leash.
- HORSES are not allowed in campgrounds.

- (R) RESERVATIONS may be made at www.recreation.gov or by calling the National Recreation Reservation Service at (877) 444-6777, TDD: (877) 833-8777.
- (A) ACCESSIBLE site(s) and toilet(s) available
- (F) FISHING
- (B) BOATING (HP=Hand-powered, E=Electric Motors allowed, IC=Internal Combustion Motors allowed)

* Please note that some campgrounds may be affected by the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic and sites may be impacted by ongoing removal of hazard trees or other maintenance work. For current information, please call the ranger district office in the area you plan to visit.

Please check our web page for updates and closures: <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>

Wilderness Areas



With the passage of the Wilderness Act in 1964, Congress created the National Wilderness Preservation System and designated certain lands as wilderness areas. These areas are managed to preserve their natural conditions and wild character for present and future generations.

They possess outstanding ecological, geological, scientific, educational, scenic, or historic values. All or parts of 10 wilderness areas are located on the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests. Additional information is available from ranger district offices and online.

The Savage Run Wilderness Area (a) is on the Laramie Ranger District. Elevations vary from 8,000 to 10,000 feet. Steep-sided canyons are located at low elevations, while rolling, plateau-like terrain can be found at higher elevations. The Savage Run Trail traverses the wilderness area along Savage Run Creek.

The Platte River Wilderness Area (b) is on the Laramie, Brush Creek/Hayden and Parks Ranger Districts. The average elevation is 7,700 feet. The Platte River is a blue ribbon trout fishing stream and is a popular waterway for rafting and kayaking.

The Encampment River Wilderness Area (c) is on the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District and the elevation averages 7,800 feet. The Encampment River flows through a narrow, rugged canyon and varies from narrow, rushing rapids to calm, smooth stretches. The hike along the river offers views of historic mines and cabins.

The Huston Park Wilderness Area (d) is on the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District. The terrain rises to an elevation of 10,500 feet and contains alpine bogs, spruce-fir, lodgepole pine, and aspen forests. The Huston Park Trail, a segment of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, traverses the wilderness area and offers panoramic, high country views.

The Mount Zirkel Wilderness Area (e) is on the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears and Parks Ranger Districts. The wilderness area is home to the headwaters of the Elk, Encampment and North Platte rivers, some 70 lakes, high mountain peaks (including the 12,180-foot Mount Zirkel for which it is named) and a portion of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail. It encompasses the rugged Sawtooth Range and portions of the Park and Sierra Madre ranges.

The Sarvis Creek Wilderness Area (f) is on the Yampa Ranger District. The rugged, heavily-wooded terrain rises from 7,004 to 10,734 feet. Visitors may enjoy a tumbling waterfall, a moist meadow, or historic logging camp remains by following the Sarvis Trail and Silver Creek Trail.

The Flat Tops Wilderness Area (g) is shared by the Yampa Ranger District and the White River National Forest. It is home to the Yampa River headwaters as well as many high alpine lakes. Elevations range from 7,640 to 12,354 feet. This is the second largest wilderness area in Colorado.

The Never Summer, Rawah, and Neota Wilderness Areas (h, i, j) are shared by the Parks Ranger District and the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests, with access also possible from Rocky Mountain National Park and Colorado State Forest State Park.

BACKCOUNTRY ETHICS

Wilderness areas are for your use and enjoyment, but you must do your part to protect them. Practice Leave No Trace techniques to prevent or minimize your impact on the land and to other visitors. More information is available at www.LNT.org.

Camping – choose an existing campsite at least 200 feet from lakes, streams and trails.

Campfires – use a camp stove instead of a fire. If you must have a fire, be at least 200 feet or posted distance from lakes, streams and trails; use an existing fire ring or build a low-impact mound fire.

Sanitation – bury human waste six to eight inches deep and at least 200 feet from lakes or streams. Do all washing with biodegradable soap at least 200 feet from lakes or streams. Pack out all garbage and leftover food.

Trails – stay on existing trails and avoid shortcutting switchbacks.

WILDERNESS REGULATIONS

Regulations are in effect to protect the land and the primitive experience.

Wilderness area regulations vary between areas. Please learn them before entering wilderness areas. Contact the ranger district office in the area you plan to visit for more information. The following regulations apply to all wildernesses areas on the national forests.

Motorized/Mechanized Equipment – All forms of motorized equipment and mechanized transport are not allowed. This includes motorcycles, ATVs, snowmobiles, aircraft, bicycles, game carts, chain saws, etc.

Group Size – Group size may not exceed a combination of 25 people and livestock with the maximum number of people being 15.

Pets – Pets must be under voice or leash control at all times to prevent harassment of wildlife and other visitors.

SAFETY

- Plan your route and make a responsible party aware of your plans and expected time of return. Carry appropriate topographic maps and compass and know how to use them. Sign in at trail registers.
- Prepare for weather extremes. Bring the equipment necessary to stay warm and dry. Lightning is common in the summer. Avoid exposed areas, lone trees and shallow caves during storms.
- Hazardous organisms exist in backcountry water. Water from all backcountry sources should be treated before drinking it.
- Carry first aid and emergency supplies and know how to use them.
- Sunglasses and sunscreen are recommended.
- Cell phone service is either unreliable or nonexistent in remote areas.

Roads and Weather

Road Info:

Wyoming: (888) WYO-ROAD (in state)
www.wydotweb.state.wy.us
www.wyoroad.info

Colorado: (877) 315-7623 (in state, but not in Denver)
(303) 639-1111 (Denver or out of state)
www.cotrip.org

Weather Info:

Wyoming: www.crh.noaa.gov/cys
Colorado: www.crh.noaa.gov/den



Federal Passes

ANNUAL DAY USE PASS (for the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests):

- Available to anyone
- The cost is \$30/year
- Good from January 1 – December 31
- Good for day use fees such as trailhead parking, picnic grounds and boat ramps on the Medicine Bow and Routt National Forests.

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL PASSES:

These interagency passes offer unlimited coverage of entrance and standard amenity recreation fees on public lands managed by the National Park Service, the Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Reclamation.

Pass is valid for the pass holder and occupants of a single private vehicle including up to three additional persons 16 and older where per person fees are charged. There is no fee for children 15 and under.

Annual Pass (Replaces Golden Eagle Passport)

- The cost is \$80.00 for one year from month of purchase.
- This pass is available to the general public.
- Covers entrance and standard recreation fees.

Senior Pass (Replaces Golden Age Passport)

- The cost is \$10.00 and the pass is valid for lifetime.
- This pass is available to seniors 62 years old and older.
- Covers entrance and standard recreation fees.
- May entitle pass holder to 50 percent off of certain fees – check with agency.

Access Pass (Replaces Golden Access Passport)

- This pass is free.
- The pass is available to citizens with permanent disabilities.
- Proof of disability required at time of request.
- Valid substitute for entrance and standard recreation fees.
- May entitle pass holder to 50 percent off of certain fees – check with each agency.

What is not covered – expanded amenity fees such as camping, RV hookups, boat launch, tours or concessionaire fees.

Cabins & Lookouts

There are three facilities available for rent on the Laramie Ranger District: the Spruce Mountain Lookout Tower, Keystone Ranger Station, and Little Brooklyn Lake Guard Station.

On the Douglas Ranger District, the La Prele Guard Station may be rented.

On the Brush Creek/Hayden Ranger District, five facilities may be rented: the Jack Creek Guard Station, Jack Creek Crew Quarters, Sandstone Cabin, Snow Survey Cabin, and Brush Creek Barracks (winter only).

The Seedhouse Guard Station on the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears Ranger District is available for rent.

The Grizzly Creek Guard Station on the Parks Ranger District is available for rent.

Reservations can be made at www.recreation.gov or by calling the National Recreation Service at (877) 444-6777, TDD: (877) 833-8777,

International calls: (581) 855-3639.

Forest Product Permits

Permits are required to remove forest products. For more information, please call district offices.

- firewood
- posts & poles
- ferns
- rocks
- tree transplants
- Christmas trees
- mushrooms



Maps Available

The following maps are available at ranger district offices, by phone order or by mail. These maps show important information such as public and private land delineation, wilderness, roads, access to public lands, streams, lakes, campgrounds, picnic grounds, trails and travel regulations.

The following maps are available at ranger district offices, by phone order, or by mail. These maps show important information, such as public and private land delineation, wilderness areas, roads, access to public lands, streams, lakes, campgrounds, picnic grounds, trails, and travel regulations.

- Routt National Forest - \$10 plastic*
- Medicine Bow National Forest - \$10 plastic*
- Laramie Peak Unit - \$10 plastic*
- Thunder Basin National Grassland - \$10 plastic*
- Pole Mountain travel - \$1 (Sold at the Laramie Ranger Districts office.)
- Other national forest maps in the Rocky Mountain Region - \$9 paper, and \$10 plastic
- Motor vehicle use maps (MVUMs) are available for most ranger districts. These maps are free and show complete, up-to-date information on where motorized vehicle use is allowed.

* Plastic maps are folded and are water and tear resistant

To order a map by phone, call the ranger district in the area you plan to visit. To order maps by mail, send a check or money order payable to U.S. Forest Service for the amount of the map(s), (there are no additional shipping and handling charges), along with the names of the maps, your mailing address, and your phone number to: Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests, Attn: Visitor Information, 2468 Jackson Street, Laramie, WY 82070.

Additional maps may be available. For more information, contact the ranger district in the area you plan to visit.

Safety

CAMPFIRES:

Fires may be limited or prohibited at certain times, due to dryness and other weather conditions. For current restriction information, please contact the ranger district office in the area you plan to visit. You are responsible for knowing the restrictions and keeping your campfire under control. Do not leave fires unattended and be sure your fire is completely extinguished before leaving or going to sleep.

PETS AND ANIMALS:

Pets must be leashed in campgrounds and day use areas. In other national forest and national grassland areas they must always be under control by voice or by leash. Under no circumstances is chasing or harassment of wild-life allowed.

FIREWORKS:

The possession and use of fireworks or other explosives is prohibited on National Forest System lands.

BARK BEETLE EPIDEMIC:

Visitors need to be aware that the mountain pine beetle epidemic has increased the risk of falling trees. Trees impacted by bark beetles appear red or have no needles. Remember: look up, look down, look around. Please be aware of your surroundings while visiting areas affected by the epidemic. Please check our web page for updates and closures: <http://fs.usda.gov/mb>

IN GENERAL:

Please be careful! Emergency services in remote settings are not readily available. It is your responsibility to know the hazards and to use the proper safety procedures and equipment to minimize the inherent risks associated with your activities. Do not expect to rely on cell phones in emergency situations. Be advised that cell phone service is either unreliable or nonexistent in remote areas.



Cooperating Organizations



ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATURE ASSOCIATION
PO Box 3100
Estes Park, CO 80517
(970) 586-0108
www.rmna.org



YAMPATIKA
PO Box 773342
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477
(970) 871-9151
www.yampatika.org



WYOMING GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT
5400 Bishop Blvd.
Cheyenne, WY 82006
(307) 777-4600
gf.state.wy.us



COLORADO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
6060 Broadway
Denver, CO 80216
(303) 297-1192
wildlife.state.co.us

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.